

Peterson Ridge Invasive Plant Weed Risk Assessment

Risk Ranking

Factors considered in determining the level of risk for the introduction or spread of invasive plants are:

 X HIGH

Has to be a combination of the following three factors:

1. Known weeds in/adjacent to project area. **YES**
2. Any of vectors # 1-8 in project area. **YES**
3. Project operation in/adjacent to weed population. **YES**

 MODERATE

1. Any of vectors # 1-5 present in project area.

 LOW

1. Any of vectors # 6-8 in project area.
2. Known weeds in/adjacent to project area without vector presence.

Vectors ranked in order of weed introduction risk:

1. Heavy equipment (implied ground disturbance) NO
2. Importing soil/cinders/gravel YES
3. OHV's POSSIBLE
4. Grazing (long-term disturbance) NO
5. Pack animals (short-term disturbance) NO
6. Plant restoration LIKELY
7. Recreationists (hikers, mountain bikers, horses) YES
8. Forest Service project vehicles YES

Mitigations

Equipment Cleaning

To prevent the introduction of the seeds of noxious weeds onto National Forest land, all equipment moved onto National Forest land should be free of soil, seeds, vegetative matter, or other debris that could contain or hold seeds.